

# UF ELU

## Environmental & Land Use Law

FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW • SPRING 2008



Alyson Flournoy

### LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Each May, as students graduate from our program and begin positions working in environmental and land use law, I find myself thinking about how these fields are changing. It is hard not to be daunted by the considerable challenges we face as a society, challenges these new lawyers will face and help us to meet. But I am also mindful of the store of new energy, ideas and skills these graduates are taking out into the world and am buoyed by the dedication, intelligence and passion the students carry with them.

All of us on the faculty are regularly reminded of the need to continually evaluate what and how we teach, so that we prepare our students as well as we can to meet these unfolding challenges. In that regard, I'm very pleased to announce final approval of our new LL.M. in Environmental and Land Use Law. The program is designed to provide law school graduates and practicing attorneys with a unique opportunity to deepen their knowledge and skills not just in law but also in other important related disciplines. (See article at right).

So although we're just celebrating the graduation of the Class of 2008, my colleagues and I are pleased to be focusing on the entering class of fall 2008 as we launch this new program.

—Alyson Flournoy

## Environmental and Land Use Law Expands to Include LL.M. Program

UF Law will offer the nation's first LL.M. in Environmental and Land Use Law this fall. This one-year, post-JD degree will provide an opportunity for recent law school graduates and experienced attorneys to spend an academic year developing in-depth expertise in environmental and land use law.

The LL.M. program adopts an innovative approach that combines the study of land use law with environmental law. The LL.M. program is unique in that six of the 26 required credit hours must be from relevant courses that have substantial non-law content and are offered outside the law school or jointly by the law school and another department.

As a result, the program capitalizes on the many outstanding programs at UF in disciplines related to environmental and land use law practice, including wildlife ecology, environmental engineering, urban and regional planning and interdisciplinary ecology. In addition to completing required coursework, LL.M. candidates must complete a written project in connection



with a seminar or the Conservation Clinic.

"We're thrilled to launch this program. It's had great support from the whole law school faculty and from many faculty across the campus," said Alyson Flournoy, director, Environmental and Land Use Law Program. "We think it will attract students who will be terrific additions to the ELUL Program and the whole law school community."

Students admitted into the program will work with the LL.M. program director to design an individual course of study tailored to their particular interests. LL.M. students also are eligible to participate in the Con-

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# 14th Annual Public Interest Environmental Conference Florida's Role In Global Issues

The University of Florida Levin College of Law's 14th Annual Public Interest Environmental Conference (PIEC) was held Feb. 28 - March 1, at the UF Law campus with 200-plus people in attendance. The theme of this year's conference was "Reducing Florida's Footprint: Stepping Up to the Global Challenge." The conference was organized by UF Law students with the support of the Public Interest Committee of the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of The Florida

Bar. It focused on Florida's role in global issues related to energy, land use, biodiversity and water. The conference took place in conjunction with the first University of Florida Water Symposium "Sustainable Water Resources: Florida Challenges, Global Solutions."

The conference, which was co-sponsored by the UF Office of Sustainability, opened with a pre-conference keynote speech by Sheila Watt-Cloutier, an Inuit climate change and human rights activist and 2007 Nobel Peace Prize nominee. The opening reception was held at the President's House with welcoming remarks by UF Law Dean Robert Jerry, as well as a keynote speech by Shannon Estenoz, governing board member for the South Florida Water Management District.

The conference resumed at the Levin College of Law Friday, Feb. 29, with an entire day of panel discussions involving dozens of participants on such topics as sea level rise, climate change, agricultural challenges, water resources, com-

munity land management, carbon markets, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the impact of war on the environment and Florida's need for sustainable energy. The conference banquet featured keynote speaker David Hunter, assistant professor of law and director of the program on International and Comparative Law at American University Washington College of Law, who addressed the evolution of international environmental law and its potential.

Saturday began with a workshop on the anatomy of a land use case providing citizens and lawyers an in-depth look into an actual case. The day's panels covered such topics as environmental injustices and dams, biodiversity loss and communication between scientists and policymakers. A two-hour plenary titled "The Focus on Florida," closed the workshops for the day.

Since its inception in 1994, this student-organized conference has attracted top practitioners, legal scholars and scientists from around the state and beyond to discuss Florida's most pressing environmental issues. Now in its 14th year, the PIEC has enjoyed a continual increase in reputation, attendance and popularity.



Yee Huang, Sheila Watt-Cloutier  
and Andrew Beckington

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ervation Clinic and apply for a seat in the summer Environmental Law Study Abroad Program in Costa Rica. The program will be small by design to ensure a high quality experience for each LL.M. student.

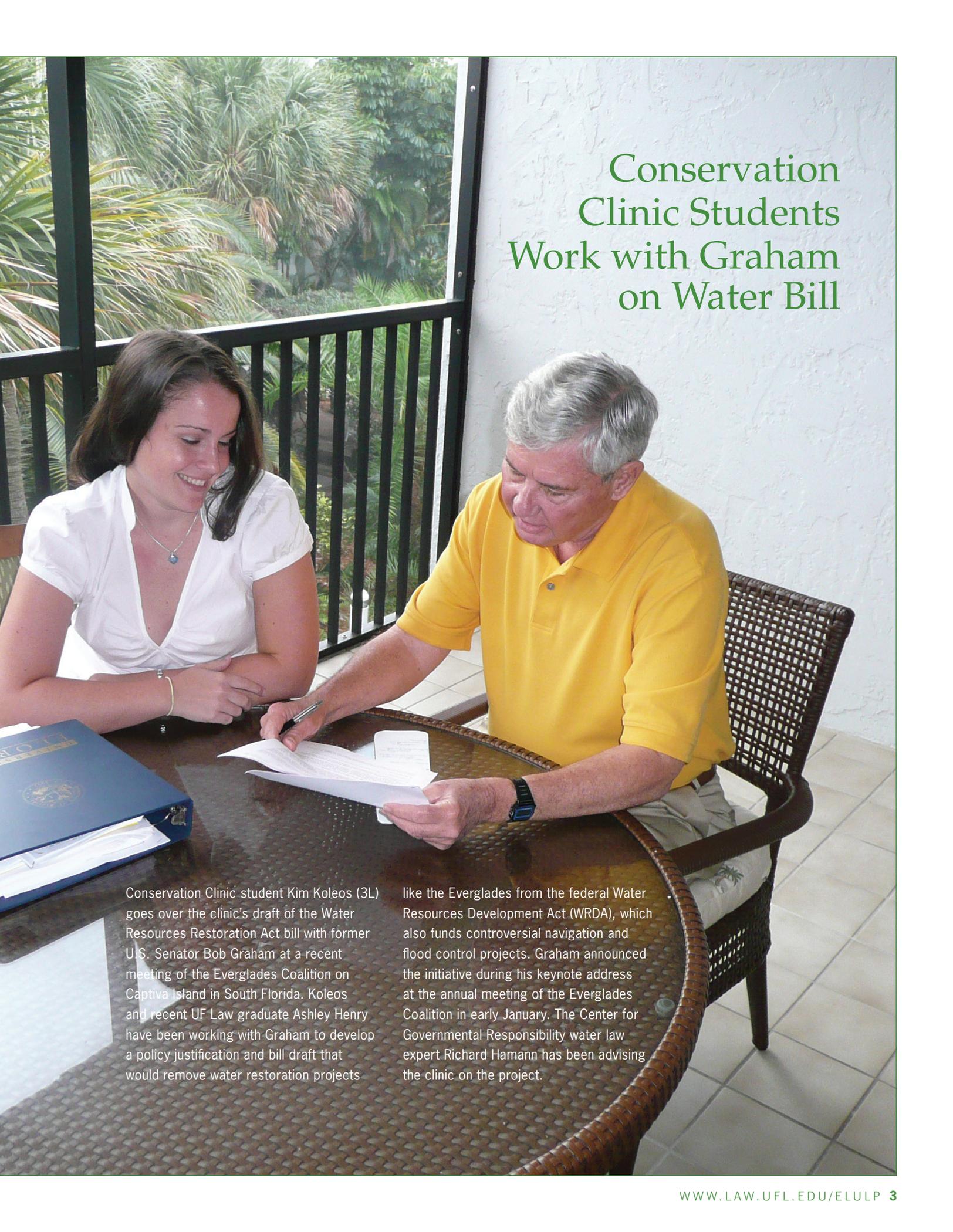
"Florida's new LL.M. program is at the cutting edge of environmental legal education, combining different specialties from within the practice of law, like land use and

environmental law, and adding to that a non-law, interdisciplinary component that includes science and engineering coursework," said Wendy A. Wagner, the Joe. A. Worsham Centennial Professor of Law at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law and a leading authority on the use of science by environmental policymakers.

"Such a broad-based curriculum, coupled with Florida's prestigious

environmental and land use law faculty, should produce lawyers who are well prepared to tackle the complex issues at the interface of law and environmental policy," Wagner said.

The program is now accepting applications for fall 2008. For detailed information on the ELUL LL.M. Program, contact Lena Hinson at 352-273-0777 or [elulp@law.ufl.edu](mailto:elulp@law.ufl.edu) or visit [www.law.ufl.edu/elulp](http://www.law.ufl.edu/elulp).



## Conservation Clinic Students Work with Graham on Water Bill

Conservation Clinic student Kim Koleos (3L) goes over the clinic's draft of the Water Resources Restoration Act bill with former U.S. Senator Bob Graham at a recent meeting of the Everglades Coalition on Captiva Island in South Florida. Koleos and recent UF Law graduate Ashley Henry have been working with Graham to develop a policy justification and bill draft that would remove water restoration projects

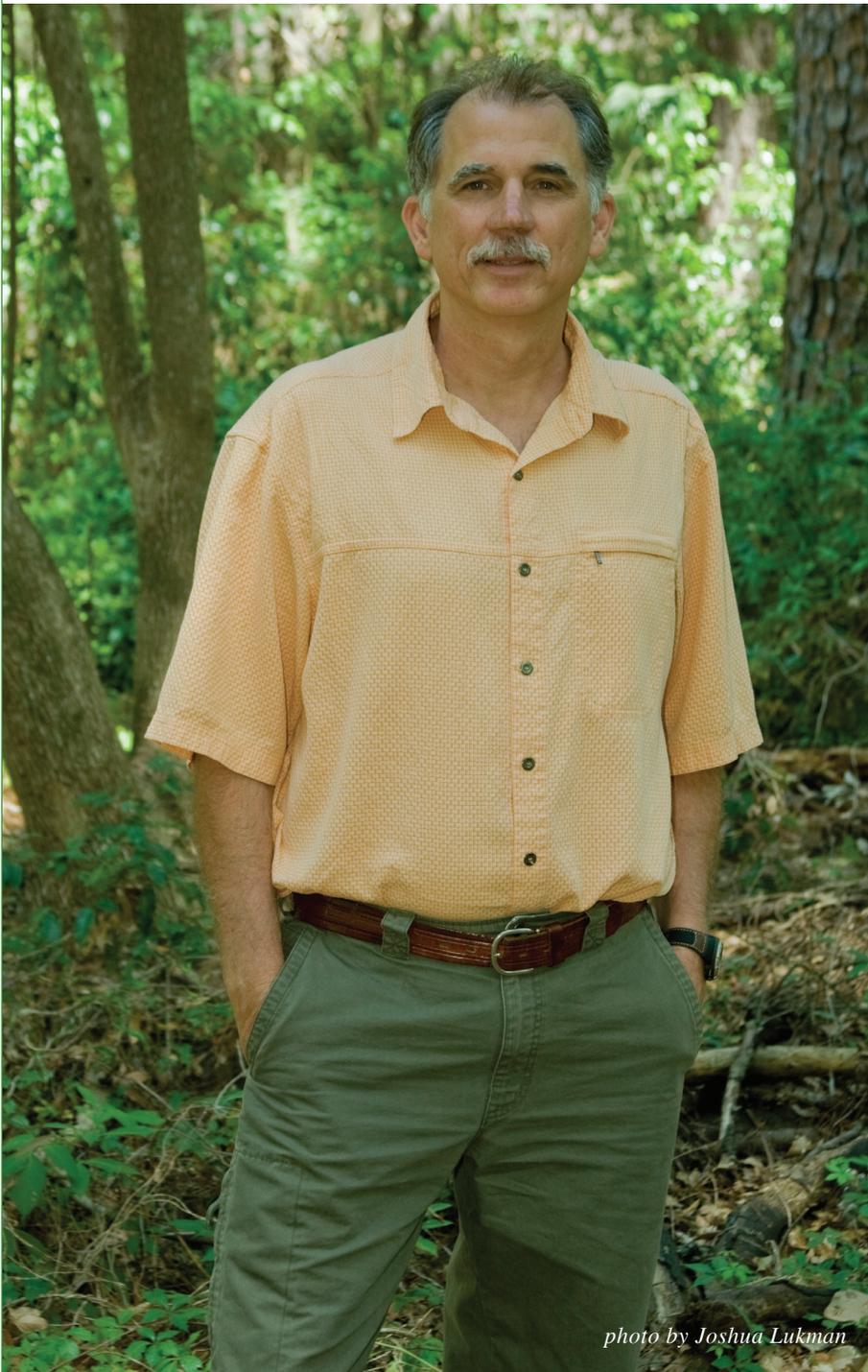
like the Everglades from the federal Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which also funds controversial navigation and flood control projects. Graham announced the initiative during his keynote address at the annual meeting of the Everglades Coalition in early January. The Center for Governmental Responsibility water law expert Richard Hamann has been advising the clinic on the project.

# Faculty Profile

## Tom Ankersen

DIRECTOR, CONSERVATION CLINIC

by Danielle D'Oyley



*photo by Joshua Lukman*

**W**ith one foot in Latin America, the other in Gainesville, and a heart in public interest law, Professor Tom Ankersen has helped shape conservation and sustainability on an international scale.

The legal skills professor's accomplishments range from local issues to worldwide conservation efforts. Ankersen has helped establish a minor in sustainability at the University of Florida, created the Conservation Clinic at the law school to advance conservation objectives, and assisted with the creation of an environmental law clinic at the University of Costa Rica — the first of its kind in Latin America.

Ankersen's career began in environmental planning near his home in Brevard County, where he felt there was a limit to what he could achieve, prompting his decision to leave the lure of the surf and pursue a law degree at landlocked UF.

After graduation he worked as a senior litigation associate for Miami environmental and land use law specialty firm, Peeples, Earl & Blank. He turned down a partnership opportunity to pursue a public interest law career with the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, Inc., now known as Earthjustice, a non-profit law firm that advocates for the environment. A transnational case involving pesticides and migratory birds in Central America piqued his interest in international environmental issues and led him to UF Law's Center for Governmental Responsibility.

Once at UF Law, he pioneered new steps in sustainability and conservation. Upon receiving a multi-year grant from the MacArthur Foundation, Ankersen stepped

outside the Gator Nation to help develop a network of environmental law groups in MesoAmerica, work on larger than life wildlife law issues in tribal Africa, and assist with communal forest management regimes in the Brazilian Amazon and the Maya Forest of Mexico, Guatemala and Belize.

“We were pioneers,” he said. “We would show up in remote forest communities surrounded by conservation biologists asking, ‘what’s a lawyer doing out here?’”

The MacArthur grant and other donors enabled Ankersen to work with colleagues in Costa Rica to establish the first in-house environmental law clinic in Latin America at the University of Costa Rica and formally associate it with UF Law’s Costa Rica study abroad program in international and comparative environmental law and policy.

“The Costa Rica Program is unique in the extent it collaborates with the Costa Rica clinic students on policy projects in the region,” Ankersen said. “It allows law and graduate students to examine international and comparative law from upside down — from South to North.”

Teaching environmental law with an

emphasis on Latin America has been one of his biggest challenges. “You have to deal with a completely different language, legal system and cultural complexities,” he said.

A desire to bring law students into his work both domestically and internationally led Ankersen to develop the UF Law Conservation Clinic. This policy-focused clinic provides both law and graduate students the opportunity to work on cutting edge environmental and land use law and policy issues. As its director, Ankersen considers the Conservation Clinic’s success to be one of his greatest accomplishments.

“We’ve been able to bring the clinic to the point where students are given the opportunity to develop their skills on projects that have real world implications,” Ankersen explained. “What’s gratifying is what they get out of it and what we’ve been able to supply to the clients.”

Not only does this clinic provide real-world experience to its students, the clinic has had success in making law. Several students working with the Gainesville-based Caribbean Conservation Corporation drafted a statute requiring notice to purchasers of

oceanfront real estate that the property was subject to coastal erosion and provided comments on coastal armoring rulemaking that were incorporated into the rule and subsequent legislation. Students have also drafted conservation easements, a local wetland ordinance, comprehensive plan amendments and green deed restrictions for new communities.

“When students contribute to lawmaking while in law school — that’s my idea of success, and employers appreciate that as well,” Ankersen said. “Nothing beats seeing a student getting a start on an environmental law career as a result of their work in the clinic.”

Ankersen’s 2007 appointment as the UF Provost’s first Faculty Fellow in Sustainability led to the development of a new undergraduate minor in sustainability and interdisciplinary collaboration in sustainability teaching, research and education. Future goals include developing a graduate certificate in sustainability and emphasizing sustainability service learning in other colleges at UF based on models like the Conservation Clinic.



Ankersen (right) with UF Law Research Associate Richard Hamann in Costa Rica. Read more about Ankersen in “Extending the Reach” on page 8.

# Conservation Clinic Briefs

by Thomas T. Ankersen, Legal Skills Professor and Director, Conservation Clinic

The UF Law Conservation Clinic continues to maintain an active portfolio of environmental and land use law and policy programs, many of which yielded tangible results over the course of the academic year. Additional clinic resources can be found at <http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/resources/resources.shtml>

## UF Law/IFAS Extension Collaboration in Land Use and Sustainability

Under the guidance of the clinic's assistant in environmental law, Thomas Ruppert, Jonathan Semach (3L) developed a set of model "green" deed restrictions for use by the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Program for Resource Efficient Communities and by developers of new communities in Florida. Some of these provisions have already been used by a Florida developer of affordable housing and homeowners associations. The clinic has begun a new project with IFAS working with Sarasota County on local government implementation of low impact development storm water practices. <http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/projects/sustainability.shtml>

## Conservation Easements for Springshed Protection

Following a chance encounter with a landowner during a clinic field trip paddling one of Florida's last wild spring runs, the clinic was engaged to develop an innovative conservation easement to protect the springshed. Tristan Harper (2L) and John November (2L) worked with the landowner and a local land trust to draft an easement based on a conservation zoning scheme for the springshed. The land trust accepted the easement and directed its staff to commence negotiations with the landowner.

## Conservation Burial Ground

Building on work done in 2003 that led to the establishment of Florida's first ecocemetery, the Glendale Nature Preserve in Walton County, Lisa Louer (3L) worked with a local land trust to develop a conservation burial ground in North Central Florida.

## Coastal Development and Armoring Policy Analysis

The clinic developed a year-long project to critically examine Florida's coastal development permitting program as well as policies to address development in the face of rising sea levels. The research revealed serious flaws in the permitting program that are contributing to the chronic loss of natural sand beaches in Florida and found that few communities are taking seriously the policy implications of sea level rise. The Caribbean Conservation Corporation and sea turtle advocates will use the results to press for policy reform. Results will also be published in the *National Sea Grant Law Journal* and the *Widener Law Review*. Ryan Feinberg (3L), Yee Huang (3L) and Michael McConnell (3L) all contributed to the project directed by Thomas Ruppert. <http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/projects/coastal.shtml>

## Carbon Trading and the Built Environment

The built environment results in a significant percentage of the United States' carbon emissions and affects the national effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Christine Manning (3L) worked with Ph.D. student Hal Knowles to develop a model contract for the transfer of carbon credits due to efficiencies gained that exceed current building code standards. The project, commissioned by the International Carbon Bank & Exchange, brokered the first green building carbon credits in Florida. In related work, Conservation Clinic Director Tom Ankersen served on the Florida Green Building Commission's statewide task force to develop a model green building ordinance. The Commission adopted the task force model, which was based on the ordinance drafted by the Conservation Clinic for the City of Gainesville in 2005. <http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/projects/sustainability.shtml>

## Federal Water Resources Development Act Reform

Under the guidance of CGR Associate in Law, Richard Hamann, Kim Koleos (3L) worked with Senator Bob Graham and the new Graham Center for Public Service in the development of a new federal statute that would separate water resource restoration projects from water resource development projects and create objective criteria on which to base funding decisions. Koleos presented her draft legislation and accompanying white paper at the annual meeting of the Everglades Coalition where Graham announced the initiative in his keynote address.

## Sustainability Pedagogy in Higher Education

Clinic Director Tom Ankersen used his appointment as the UF Provost Faculty Fellow in Sustainability to assist with the development of a new undergraduate minor in sustainability at UF. The minor emphasizes sustainability service learning and will begin in fall 2008. Melissa Hochmuth (3L) worked with law school-bound undergraduate leaders to assess UF's sustainability and service learning curriculum. The clinic also worked with the IFAS Cooperative Extension Service to create two service learning internships in land use and sustainability and place students in county extension offices. It continues to support the efforts of the UF Office of Sustainability to create a policy framework for campus climate neutrality. [http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/pdf/fostering\\_curriculum\\_dev.pdf](http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/pdf/fostering_curriculum_dev.pdf)

## Waterfronts Florida Comprehensive Plan Compliance Review

The Florida Department of Community Affairs commissioned the clinic to conduct a thorough review of Waterfronts Florida Program communities' comprehensive plans to determine the extent to which their plans and accompanying land development regulations comply with new state legislation addressing public water access. Clinic Land Use Law Fellow and recent graduate Adrienne Dessy (JD 08) is directing the project with assistance from Lisa Louer (3L) and Kelly McDermott (3L). In a related project, McDermott worked with the City of Punta Gorda and Florida Sea Grant to draft public water access policies for that community. <http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/waterways/waterfronts/index.htm>

## Florida Recreational Boating Law Reform

New legislation requires local governments to develop "water use policies" but provides no guidance, and local governments are constrained by federal and state pre-emptions. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission commissioned the clinic to undertake a comprehensive review of Florida's boating laws and provide recommendations. To assist the analysis, Melanie King (3L) completed a detailed legislative history of Chapter 327 and constructed a searchable database by adapting case management software ordinarily used for litigation timelines. King presented her work at several interagency and stakeholder meetings. <http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/waterways/waterways/index.htm>

## Living Shorelines

Eroding shorelines on Florida's low energy gulf coast have prompted riparian land owners to seek to "harden" the shoreline with seawalls and other armoring to protect their property. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has begun promoting an environmentally beneficial option to hardening that involves installing porous breakwaters to absorb wave energy and native vegetation to recreate a marshy shoreline. Although environmentally beneficial, this form of shoreline protection involves the same sort of permitting requirements as detrimental hardening options. Kathryn Isaacs (2L) has been researching the regulatory framework for permitting living shorelines and seeking ways to streamline the process or otherwise incentivize living shorelines in order to make living shorelines the preferred option for coastal property protection.

## Colliding Worlds: Land Use in Costa Rica

Costa Rica is a country in development transition that is facing many of the growth and development problems Florida has confronted. The Conservation Clinic partners with the University of Costa Rica's environmental law clinic through the UF/UCR Joint Program in Environmental Law. In the summer of 2007, U.S. & Costa Rica students explored the application of U.S. style land use tools such as transferable development rights, density bonuses and comprehensive planning to Costa Rica, in the municipality of Santa Ana in Costa Rica's metropolitan central valley. This work will continue with the 2008 Costa Rica Program. <http://www.law.ufl.edu/conservation/international/international.shtml>

*photo by Nick Stuart*



# Extending the Reach Clinical Environmental Law in Latin America

by Thomas T. Ankersen

**T**he Amazon forest begins in the Brazilian State of Mato Grosso, the southern front in an epic battle against deforestation that is a threat to the health of the entire planet. Recognizing Mato Grosso's strategic conservation importance and the growing importance of law in an often lawless frontier, the University of Florida's Moore Foundation-funded Amazon Conservation Leadership Initiative decided to invest in the law school at the Federal University of Mato Grosso (UFMT) and leverage the resources and experience of UF Law and its Costa Rica Program.

In 2007, the Moore Foundation's program sponsored Giselle Ferreria from UFMT to participate in the Costa Rica Program and learn more about the operation of environmental clinics. In Costa Rica she worked with UF students Elizabeth Manno and Claudia Stickler

and Costa Ricans in the UCR Consultorio Juridico Ambiental on a strategic plan to develop the UFMT Escritório Modelo de Advocacia Ambiental. Ferreria and her students will now work with the state prosecutor of Mato Grosso to develop and bring deforestation cases with the hope that UFMT will be a model for other Amazon state universities.

For the next several years, two students from UFMT will travel to Costa Rica to work on projects that they can apply at home in Brazil. This summer UF Law student Michael Willson (2L), who speaks Portuguese, will assist the UFMT students in the design of an environmental services payment program, learning from Costa Rica's highly touted model. UF Law environmental program faculty will be invited to lecture in UFMT's new master's degree in environmental law during the regular academic year.

## Congratulations To Our Graduating Certificate And Joint Degree Students

### J.D. with Certificate in Environmental and Land Use Law

#### Fall 2007 Graduates

G. Matthew Brockway  
Anthony J. Manganiello III  
Michael L. Schwebel Jr.  
Gregory A. Zhelesnik

#### Spring 2008 Graduates

Charles "Chad" Capps  
Ryan Feinberg  
Megone Gordon  
Melanie King  
Kim Koleos  
Christine Manning  
Andrew Miller  
Tineshia Morris  
Warren Pies

### Joint Degree with Certificate in Environmental and Land Use Law

Christina Storz, J.D. and  
Master in Interdisciplinary  
Ecology



# Questions for Heather Ann Halter

2007 KNAUSS SEA GRANT MARINE POLICY FELLOW

## Where were you placed?

I worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, Highly Migratory Species Management Division (HMS). HMS writes fishery management plans for all of the Atlantic highly migratory fish species – billfish, sharks, tuna and swordfish. Due to the complicated inter-jurisdictional nature of these migratory fish, state, federal and international laws all intersect in their management. HMS actions are mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Atlantic Tunas Convention Act, and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

## What did you do?

I was able to write a proposed and final swordfish fishery rule published in the Federal Register. I also wrote an environmental assessment for that rule. It was a great learning experience to be able to assist in the environmental impact statement and fishery management plan for large coastal shark species. I attended and sometimes conducted public hearings for the swordfish and shark rules, which included travel to New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Florida and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In addition, I was able to participate in international meetings for ICCAT. Our Knauss 2007 class took a week-long trip to the coast of Oregon where we visited sanctuaries and wildlife areas and learned more about marine issues in other regions of the country.

## What were the benefits?

Over the course of the year, I was able to network at events on Capitol Hill and at other government agencies. I made contacts in the environmental law, science and policy communities of Washington, D.C. and gained significant expertise in administrative law in the fisheries field. I was also able to write a rule – actual law – that governs the conduct of swordfish fishermen in federal waters. It's gratifying to feel like I left a mark that will make a difference in managing highly migratory fish species.



Melanie King (JD 08) has been selected to receive a Knauss Sea Grant Marine Policy Fellowship. As part of this prestigious one-year fellowship, Melanie will be placed with an agency or legislative office working on federal marine policy issues. “My hobbies of sailing, scuba diving and fishing led to an interest in fishery protection. The guidance of my professors in UF’s ELUL Program, working with boating law in the Conservation Clinic, and my externship at the Ocean Conservancy have helped prepare me for the Knauss Fellowship. I’m very excited about helping develop the nation’s fishery policy and getting on track for a career in marine conservation,” she said. Melanie follows in the footsteps of 2007 graduate Heather Halter, who recently completed her year working with NOAA Fisheries (See related article on left).





C. Anthony Arnold



Dawn Jourdan



Alexandra Klass



Luis E. Rodriguez-Rivera



Ronald L. Weaver

## Environmental and Land Use Law Speakers

The Levin College of Law’s Environmental and Land Use Law program began its spring 2008 Environmental Speaker Series Jan. 24 with a presentation by Assistant Professor Dawn Jourdan titled “Evidence-based Ordinance Drafting: The Regulation of Signage Based on Scholarship.”

The series featured nationally known scholars and practicing attorneys who came to the law school campus to present their research to Environmental and Land Use Law (ELUL) students and faculty.

The seminars, which allow students to explore new perspectives, are part of the capstone colloquium for certificate students and are designed to enrich students’

knowledge of environmental and land use law. The speaker series is made possible through the support of the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of The Florida Bar and the law firms of Hopping Green & Sams, P.A. and Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A.

### Spring 2008 speakers included:

- **Dawn E. Jourdan**, Assistant Professor of Law and Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Florida, on “Evidence-

based Ordinance Drafting: The Regulation of Signage Based on Scholarship.”

- **Alexandra Klass**, Associate Professor of Law, University of Minnesota Law School, on “Modern Public Trust Principles: Recognizing Rights and Integrating Standards.”
- **Luis E. (“Ricky”) Rodriguez-Rivera**, Associate Professor of Law, University of Puerto Rico School of Law, on “The Development of Land Use Law in Puerto Rico.”
- **C. Anthony Arnold**, Boehl Chair in Property and Land Use & Professor of Law, University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law, on “Models of Clean-Water Land Use.”
- **Ronald L. Weaver**, Shareholder, Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., on “Concurrency, Proportionate Fair Share, and Other Land Use Hot Topics.”



photo by Nick Stuart

# Focus of Nelson Symposium Green Building Practices

The implications of a wide range of efforts on the local, state and national levels designed to encourage and require Green Building practices were explored at the Seventh Annual Richard E. Nelson Symposium, Friday, Feb. 15, at the University of Florida Hilton Conference Center.

Presented by the UF Levin College of Law and co-sponsored by the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of The Florida Bar and The Florida Bar City County and Local Government Section, this year's conference was titled "Green Building: Prospects and Pitfalls for Local Governments." The event drew experts from law and related fields who discussed topics including Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and other certification programs, state and local climate change initiatives, private environmental lawmaking, building industry and local government programs, and national trends.

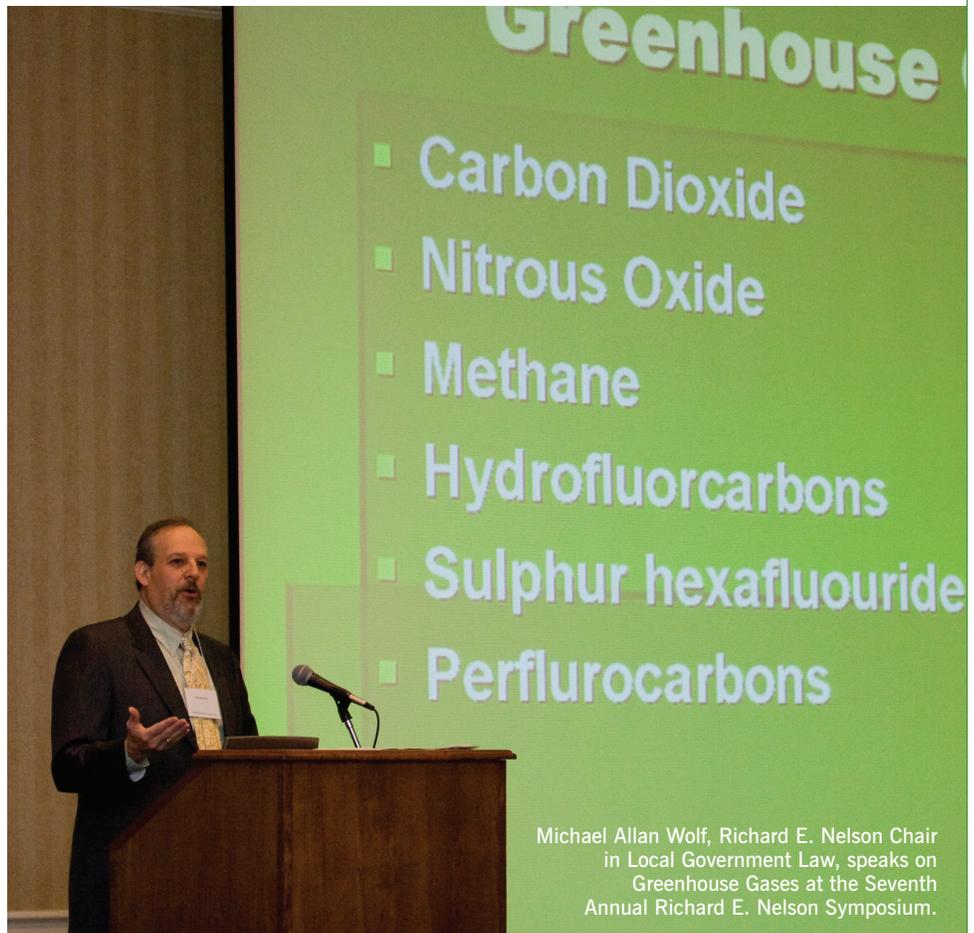
The state of Florida is positioning itself to be in the forefront of governmental efforts to incorporate design and construction practices that will yield energy efficiency, enable the conservation of resources and protect the environment. Some local governments and universities have also been experimenting with their own Green Building programs. This rapidly changing field presents challenges and potential problems for local government counsel, as well as attorneys who specialize in real estate, land use, environmental and construction law.

Speakers included Bahar Armaghani, assistant director of the University of Florida Facilities Planning & Construction Division; Douglas Buck, director

of governmental affairs, Florida Home Builders Association; Kristen H. Engel, professor, University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law; David J. Heekin, Esq., Landmark Title, Jacksonville, Fla.; Charles J. Kibert, professor, University of Florida M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction; Errol E. Meidinger, Vice Dean for Research and professor, University at Buffalo Law School, State University of New York; Michael Allan Wolf, Richard E. Nelson Chair in Local Government Law, UF Levin College of Law; Joshua Yaffin, Energy Coordinator, Florida Depart-

ment of Management Services; and Jariel Bortnick, J.D. candidate, UF Levin College of Law.

This was the seventh symposium honoring Richard E. Nelson—who served with distinction as Sarasota County attorney for 30 years—and Jane Nelson, two UF alumni who gave more than \$1 million to establish the Richard E. Nelson Chair in Local Government Law, which sponsors the annual event. Their support of the Levin College of Law's Environmental and Land Use Program has been key to the program's success and national recognition for excellence.



Michael Allan Wolf, Richard E. Nelson Chair in Local Government Law, speaks on Greenhouse Gases at the Seventh Annual Richard E. Nelson Symposium.



The UF Law ELUL Program has one of the largest full-time environmental faculties, with 9 full-time professors, a clinical skills professor, and six legal experts from the Center for Governmental Responsibility, all in a partnership with a team of talented adjuncts. The faculty takes pride in its accessibility to students, and faculty members routinely sponsor environmental receptions and dinners at their homes and accompany students on kayaking, backpacking, and other field trips.

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**FLORIDA**

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